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C2F 07-11MA

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USS Nassau headed to the Mediterranean for Multinational Exercise "Phoenix Express 2007"

Norfolk, Va. – Nearly 1,000 Sailors aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Nassau (LHA 4) will depart from their homeport in Norfolk on **Wednesday, March 28** to participate in the multinational exercise "Phoenix Express" in the Sixth Fleet Area of Responsibility (AOR).

"Phoenix Express" includes participants from Algeria, France, Greece, Italy, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey and the United States. The multi-national exercise is focused on developing the individual and collective maritime proficiencies of participating nations. The exercise will promote friendship, mutual understanding and cooperation with regional partners.

Commander, Amphibious Squadron Six, Captain Martin R. Allard, and staff will embark on USS Nassau for the duration of the exercise. Detachments from Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 26 (HSC-26), Beach Master Unit Two (BMU-2), Assault Craft Unit Two (ACU-2) and Fleet Surgical Team will also be embarked. USS Nassau is scheduled to return to Norfolk in May.

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<u>NOTE</u>: For information on USS Nassau's departure contact Second Fleet Public Affairs at (757) 443-9850, x47127.